

Satellite SIGINT file

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FOIA
Code IX

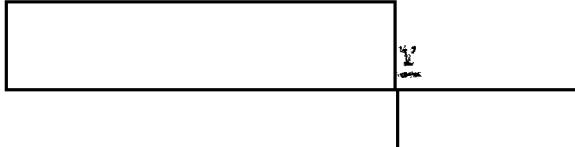
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TOP SECRET

202-4755-6

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16 November 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
SUBJECT: The Annexed Letter to Secretary Vance

1. The annexed letter was prepared as a result of our conversation yesterday about satellite SIGINT collection [redacted]

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2. [redacted] has briefed Dr. Hornig's assistant (Dr. Steininger), and Mr. Larson in DDC&E. Both expressed interest and registered no opposition to the proposal. I am advising Jim Reber that a letter of this general character will, in all probability, be sent.

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3. [redacted] is preparing a short brief designed to alert you to any arguments against this proposal which are reasonably to be anticipated, and the sources of opposition. This would be ready for use in the event of some debate at the Executive Committee Meeting of the NRO on Wednesday.

JOHN A. BRODS
D/DCI/NIPE

Attachment

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Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee w/att. #1 & 2

1 - ER w/att. #3

1 - [redacted] w/att. #4

1 - NIPE/Chrono w/att. #5

1 - NIPE/Subject w/att CP #6

NRO review(s) completed.

[redacted]
Copy No. 8

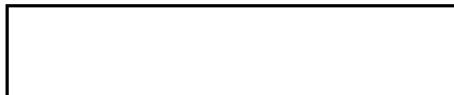
1 - DDCI w/att. #7
1 - NIPE w/att. #8
1 - [redacted] w/att. #9

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1 - [redacted] w/att. #10

SIGINT Satellite
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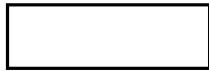
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21 NOV 1966

The Honorable Cyrus R. Vance
Deputy Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon

Dear Cy:

On 17 November the United States Intelligence Board (USIB) approved an urgent requirement for information on [redacted]

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[redacted] systems. It is essential that every effort be made to meet this requirement within the next twelve months. In evaluating the chances of early fulfillment of that requirement, I am convinced that, among the various SIGINT satellite systems presently available, the best hope lies in a concentrated [redacted] program. This program would involve qualitative improvement, as well as an extended launch schedule, probably to as many as [redacted] per year. I believe that immediate steps should be taken to develop such a program and to make the necessary NRO funds available.

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard Helms

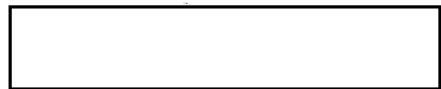
Richard Helms

JABROSS:ag (18/11/66)

Distribution:

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- 1 & 2 - Addressee
- 3 - Dr. Hornig
- 4 - Dr. Flax
- 5 - DCI
- 6 - DDCI
- 7 - DDI
- 8 - [redacted]
- 9 - [redacted]



[redacted]
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